

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 R

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DRAFTED BY: NEA/IRN:JRODES:S

APPROVED BY: NEA/IRN:CWNAAS

NEA/ARP:PDMOLINEAUX

S/S:WHLUERS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

S E C R E T STATE 008369

EXDIS

FOR LAMBRAKIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 8369 ACTION LONDON INFO MUSCAT 14 JAN

QUOTE

S E C R E T STATE 008369

EXDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, MU, UK

SUBJECT:US USE OF OMANI AIRFIELDS

REF: LONDON 476

FOR LAMBRAKIS

FOR OPENING OF BUSINESS JANUARY 14

1. PLEASE ADVISE FOREIGN MINISTER ZAWAWI REPEAT ZAWAWI
AS FOLLOWS: USG PREFERS USE MASIRAH AIRBASE, IS NOT
INTERESTED THAMARIT (OR MIDWAY) EXCEPT PERHAPS IN CASE OF
DIRE EMERGENCY, FOR WHICH AD HOC ARRANGEMENTS WOULD
SUFFICE. USG AGAIN WISHES EXPRESS APPRECIATION TO SULTAN

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FOR HIS GENEROUS OFFER.

2. PLEASE CONFIRM TO ZAWAWI THAT USG HOPES THAT OMANI GOVERNMENT WILL SOON CONVEY TO HMG GIST OF DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN SULTAN QABOOS AND THE SECRETARY, CONFIRMING SULTAN'S AGREEMENT TO OCCASIONAL USE OF MASIRAH BY US MILITARY AIRCRAFT. FYI: WE HAVE BRIEFED BRITISH EMBASSY HERE ON QABOOS VISIT INCLUDING USE OF MASIRAH NOTING OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT OMAN REPS WILL BE REVIEWING THIS WITH HMG. END FYI.

3. SHOULD ZAWAWI ASK, YOU MAY ADVISE CURRENT STATE USAF PLANNING IS DELIVER 10 TOW LAUNCHERS AND SOME 80-90 MISSILES (DEPENDING ON AVAILABILITY), TWO TOW MISSILE TRAINERS,

1998 CLAYMORE MINES AND TWO US TECHNICIANS (TO DEMONSTRATE USE OF TOW) VIA C-141 TO SEEB AIRPORT, ETA 18 JAN 1020 A.M. YOU MAY ALSO WISH INFORM COL. LONDON OR COL. HARCOURT.

4. FYI: USG REGARDS INJECTION YAHYA OMAR INTO DIALOGUE ON AIRBASE USE AND TOW AS HIGHLY UNFORTUNATE DEVELOPMENT. WE REALIZE OMANI PALACE POLITICAL SITUATION MAY PRECLUDE COMPLETE EXCLUSION OMAR, HOWEVER, USG INTENDS CONDUCT FUTURE COMMUNICATIONS THESE SUBJECTS THROUGH NORMAL DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS, I.E., THROUGH US AMBASSADOR MUSCAT TO FOREIGN MINISTER AND APPROPRIATE OMANI MILITARY AUTHORITIES, OR, ALTERNATIVELY, THROUGH OMANI EMBASSY WASHINGTON. YOU SHOULD ADOPT SAME APPROACH TO EXTENT DIPLOMATICALLY POSSIBLE. END FYI. INGERSOLLUNQUOTE KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, MILITARY AIRCRAFT, MILITARY BASES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: johnsorg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE008369
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: NEA/IRN:JRODES:S
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750013-0549
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750153/aaaabulo.tel
Line Count: 90
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 75 LONDON 476
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: johnsorg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 JUN 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <04 NOV 2003 by johnsorg>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: S USE OF OMANI AIRFIELDS
TAGS: PFOR, MARR, MU, UK, US
To: LONDON
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006